

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Elazar Rabbani et al.)
Serial No.: 08/439,594) Group Art Unit: 1656
Filed: November 12, 1999) Examiner: Joyce Tung
For: NOVEL SPECIFIC TARGET NUCLEIC ACID)
DETECTION AND AMPLIFICATION PROCESSES, AND)
COMPOSITIONS USEFUL FOR PRODUCING ONE OR)
MORE COPIES OF SPECIFIC TARGET NUCLEIC)
SEQUENCES)

RECEIVED

MAR - 3 2003

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

527 Madison Avenue (9th Floor)
New York, New York 10022
March 20, 2002

FILED BY EXPRESS MAIL

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

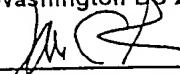
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115
(IN RESPONSE TO THE DECEMBER 20, 2000 OFFICE ACTION)

Dear Sirs:

This is a response (Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115) to the December 20, 2000 Office Action issued in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the December 20, 2000 Office Action was originally due by March 20, 2000. Submitted with this response (Amendment) is a Petition Under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) and authorization for the fee therefor. Accordingly, with the expected granting of the Petition, this response (Amendment) will be considered as having been timely filed.

Elazaar Rabbani et al.
Serial No.: 09/439,594
Filed: November 12, 1999

Page 2 [Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115 (In Response To The
December 20, 2000 Office Action – March 20, 2002)]

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE	
"Express Mail" Label No. <u>EL869104660US</u>	
Deposit Date	<u>March 20, 2002</u>
I hereby certify that this paper and the attachments herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington DC 20231.	
	<u>MAR 20 2002</u>
Ronald C. Fedus Reg. No. 32,567	Date